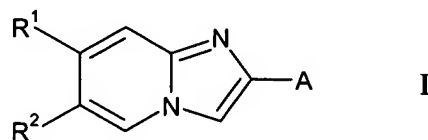


Claims

1. A pharmaceutical composition, comprising a therapeutically effective amount of at least one compound of formula



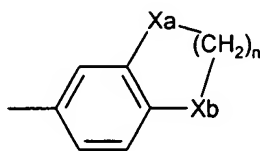
wherein

R¹ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, (C₁₋₆)-alkyl, halogen, hydroxy and (C₁₋₆)-alkoxy;

R² is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, (C₁₋₆)-alkyl, halogen, hydroxy and (C₁₋₆)-alkoxy;

A is unsubstituted aryl or aryl substituted with at least one substituent selected from the group consisting of (C₁₋₆)-alkyl, halogen, halogen-(C₁₋₆)-alkyl, hydroxy, (C₁₋₆)-alkoxy, benzyloxy, amino, (C₁₋₆)-alkylamino, di-(C₁₋₆)-alkyl-amino, arylamino, diarylamino and nitro, or

is unsubstituted heteroaryl or heteroaryl substituted with at least one substituent selected from the group consisting of (C₁₋₆)-alkyl, halogen, halogen-(C₁₋₆)-alkyl, hydroxy, (C₁₋₆)-alkoxy, benzyloxy, amino, (C₁₋₆)-alkylamino, di-(C₁₋₆)-alkyl-amino, arylamino, diarylamino and nitro, or is the group



wherein

X_a, X_b are, independently from each other, selected from the group consisting of -CH₂- and -O-; and

n is 1 or 2;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof

and a pharmaceutically suitable carrier.

2. The method according to claim 1, comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of formula I wherein A is unsubstituted aryl or aryl substituted with at least one substituent selected from the group consisting of (C₁₋₆)-alkyl, halogen, halogen-(C₁₋₆)-alkyl, hydroxy, (C₁₋₆)-alkoxy, benzyloxy, amino, (C₁₋₆)-alkylamino, di-(C₁₋₆)-alkyl-amino, arylamino, diarylamino and nitro, and R¹ and R² are as defined in claim 1.

3. The composition according to claim 2, wherein A is unsubstituted phenyl or phenyl substituted with at least one substituent selected from the group consisting of (C₁₋₆)-alkyl, halogen, halogen-(C₁₋₆)-alkyl, hydroxy, (C₁₋₆)-alkoxy, benzyloxy, amino, (C₁₋₆)-alkylamino, di-(C₁₋₆)-alkyl-amino, arylamino, diarylamino and nitro.

4. The composition according to claim 3, wherein A is phenyl substituted with at least one substituent selected from the group consisting of (C₁₋₆)-alkyl, halogen, halogen-(C₁₋₆)-alkyl, hydroxy, (C₁₋₆)-alkoxy, benzyloxy, amino, (C₁₋₆)-alkylamino, di-(C₁₋₆)-alkyl-amino, arylamino, diarylamino and nitro.

5. The composition according to claim 4, wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of
2-(3-chloro-phenyl)-imidazo[1,2-a]pyridine,
7-methyl-2-phenyl-imidazo[1,2-a]pyridine,
2-(4-methyl-phenyl)-imidazo[1,2-a]pyridine,
2-(3-methoxy-phenyl)-imidazo[1,2-a]pyridine,
6-methyl-2-(4-methyl-phenyl)-imidazo[1,2-a]pyridine, and
2-(3-nitro-phenyl)-imidazo[1,2-a]pyridine.

6. The composition according to claim 3, wherein A is phenyl substituted with at least two substituents selected from the group consisting of (C₁₋₆)-alkyl, halogen, halogen-(C₁₋₆)-alkyl, hydroxy, (C₁₋₆)-alkoxy, benzyloxy, amino, (C₁₋₆)-alkylamino, di-(C₁₋₆)-alkyl-amino, arylamino, diarylamino and nitro.

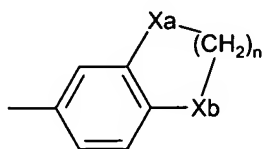
7. The composition according to claim 6, wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of

2-(3,4-dimethoxy-phenyl)-7-methyl-imidazo[1,2-a]pyridine, and
2-(3,4-dimethyl-phenyl)-imidazo[1,2-a]pyridine hydrochloride,

8. The composition according to claim 1, wherein A is unsubstituted heteroaryl or heteroaryl substituted with at least one substituent selected from the group consisting of (C₁₋₆)-alkyl, halogen, halogen-(C₁₋₆)-alkyl, hydroxy, (C₁₋₆)-alkoxy, benzyloxy, amino, (C₁₋₆)-alkylamino, di-(C₁₋₆)-alkyl-amino, arylamino, diarylamino and nitro.

9. The composition according to claim 8, wherein the compound is 2-benzofuran-2-yl-imidazo[1,2-a]pyridine.

10. The composition according to claim 1, wherein A is the group



wherein X_a, X_b are, independently from each other, -CH₂- or -O-; and n is 1 or 2.

11. The composition according to claim 10, wherein the compound is 2-(2,3-dihydro-benzo[1,4]dioxin-6-yl)-imidazo[1,2-a]pyridine.